



SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS	Supplement Number	Date Issued
	79-1-C	2/22/79

National Mapping Division

SUBJECT

Tidal Datum - Gulf of Mexico

BACKGROUND

The National Ocean Survey has defined a new tidal datum for use as a low water reference. NOS has designated GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM as the tidal datum for coastal waters of the Gulf Coast of the United States. The new term replaces the former term DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER. No adjustments to shorelines, depth curves, bathymetric contours, soundings, or other offshore hydrographic data are required.

INSTRUCTIONS

A statement GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM is shown on all maps that contain offshore hydrographic data covering U.S. Coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico from Mangrove Point, Florida, approximately 25°22'33"N and 80°18'36"W, to the United States-Mexico border.

Typical vertical datum notes are patterned after the following:

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER
GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.5 METERS

Existing instructions pertaining to tidal datum notes shown on maps covering the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts and the Great Lakes remain in effect.

APPLIES TO

New and revised maps, and reprints--all map scales.

ISSUED TO

EMC, MCMC, RMMC, WMC, SMC, Publications Division (Ben Thien),
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